



**General Meeting**  
**Friday August 17, 2012**  
**7:30pm**

**Our Saviors Lutheran Church**  
**1035 Carol Lane Lafayette**

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**Affiliated  
 Club**

## August Meeting Features Transmitter Hunting with Rich Harrington, KN6FW

This month's guest speaker is Rich Harrington, KN6FW. Rich will be demonstrating the equipment and techniques used for transmitter hunting. Besides organizing and participating in local area T-Hunts, he designs and builds some of the equipment he uses for direction finding. Rich is a regular at *Pacificon* where he both coordinates the T-Hunts and teaches the popular "One Day" Technician class.

73,  
 John Weldon, KJ6GLQ  
 Vice President



**KN6FW on RDF missions, while  
 on foot .... and mobile.**

# PUBLIC SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

\*\*\*\*\*  
Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX  
P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
(925) 288-1730

*The Carrier* is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

**President** - Jim Siemons, AF6PU  
**Vice President** - John Weldon, KJ6GLQ  
**Secretary** - Richard Fletcher, AF9RF  
**Treasurer** - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE  
**Emergency Coordinator** - Tom Kramer, WA6NYP

**Director & Technical Committee Chair**  
Trevor Hall, WA6JAU wa6jau@sbcglobal.net

**Director & Education and Training Committee Chair**  
John Primus, AF6RJ af6rj@arrl.net

**Director At Large**  
Ron Luttringer, K6XC

**PACIFICON 2012**  
Co-Chair: Paula Costa, KI6MPD  
Co-Chair: Jim Siemons, AF6PU  
Registration Chair: Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE  
Treasurer: Mike Patterson, N6JGA  
Secretary: Pete Harris, KE6ZIW  
Webmaster: Ron Raines, N6QIY

**Membership Chair** - Tom Deeble, KA6SIP  
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**The Carrier** Newsletter  
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Youth and Education Programs - Bill Ryan, KJ6IGX  
Volunteer Examinations - George Tickner, K6NHY  
Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW  
Field Day Chairs - Lauren Styles, WA6CIE and Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV  
Communications Trailer - Brent Morgan, AF6HQ

*Amateur Television Help and Information:*  
John Schuler, W6DTV JOHNQRZ@aol.com

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP. DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE CARRIER* IN FULL COLOR AS WELL AS SHARE INFORMATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdarc>

It's that time of year when we begin organizing for this year's ham radio public service events. I am putting together a list for the MDARC Public Services webpage and for *The Carrier* newsletter. Here is a sneak preview, so you can begin planning what you would like to volunteer for. Some information below is not yet fully confirmed. We definitely appreciate and love to have your participation. These are great events in beautiful places, they are fun to do, invaluable to the community organizations that we assist, and great opportunities to use your cool ham radio equipment.

10/7/12: Mt. Diablo Challenge bike ride up Mt. Diablo, for *Save Mt. Diablo*.

*Pete Harris, KE6ZIW*  
*Public Services Coordinator*  
*Pharris125@comcast.net*  
*925-228-4503*

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## **\*Free CERT Training Offered in Concord\***

Sign-ups are now being taken for free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, offered by the City of Concord. Residents may choose to attend classes on Saturdays or on Tuesday evenings.

The Saturday classes will be held on Sept. 8, 15 and 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday classes will be held for six weeks from Sept. 25 through Oct. 30 from 6:30 - 10 p.m. Participants must be at least 16 years of age. Sessions are held at the fire training facility, 2945 Treat Blvd.

CERT participants are taught by emergency personnel in basic fire safety, disaster preparedness and terrorism response, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, CERT organization, and disaster psychology.

Through training, CERT members become valuable resources to their families and neighbors in the event of an emergency. For more information or to sign up for [CERT training](#), call Rich Lueck at 925-603-5933 or e-mail [rich.lueck@gmail.com](mailto:rich.lueck@gmail.com).

## PRESIDENT'S QTC

Happy August everyone! I sure hope that you have been surviving the summer heat and activities. There is a lot going on in the world of amateur radio. Much of it is centered right around MDARC. I listen to our repeaters and cannot help but notice the public service events that have been going on. Pete Harris KE6ZIW has done a fantastic job coordinating many of the public service events and getting the volunteers needed to make so many of the events operate properly. If you want to improve your ham skills, or just want to have some fun - sign up for one of the great public service events that are happening most every weekend.

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Pacificon 2012 - The ARRL National Convention is coming right up. The dates are October 12-14 at the Marriott Santa Clara. This event is put on each year by MDARC, and many volunteers throughout the region. We have over 80 forum speakers, a very large vendor pavilion packed with some top flight merchants, a huge number of non-profit exhibitors representing many of the greatest modes of amateur operation and radio museums, and a terrific swap meet on Saturday. There are so many activities going on simultaneously, it is like a veritable 3-ring circus of amateur radio! We do ask all MDARC members to volunteer for a least a few hours. I promise you, the reward of volunteering is going to far outweigh the pain. Please contact Sam Sampayan KJ6PCM at [sammosammo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sammosammo@sbcglobal.net) for volunteer opportunities. It's going to be a great time.

\*\*\*

Another little caveat to pass on in regards to Pacificon is to advise you to purchase your tickets - particularly for the Banquet, Breakfast and Antenna Forum right away. This is the ARRL National Convention, and everything is selling out fast! I sure don't want my brethren here at MDARC to miss out on any activities. <http://www.pacificon.org/>

\*\*\*

Since my last President's Message, I spent 10 glorious days amongst the swaying palm trees and trade winds of Maui. I have not taken a proper vacation in about six years, and was able to really enjoy some time with my family. My oldest daughter, Emily KJ6BUF is heading off to college, and this is the last time that I have my kids together as kids. Folks, look up the Amateur Operators Code, and you will see that family comes first!

\*\*\*

Having said all that, Hawaii is still a great place to play radio. I did not bring any HF gear, but did bring a couple of HTs. There are many terrific repeaters on all the main islands. Most of the repeaters do not use PL tones. If you can get on frequency, you can play. Some of their ARES/RACES repeaters are linked, and when you are talking on Maui, you may well be talking to hams on the Big Island, Oahu and Kauai. I scanned around and found some simplex opportunities as well. I found a couple of great Hawaiian BBQ places by talking with some of my new ham friends. I have some skeds set up to try HF contacts back to Maui, now that I am back home. Remember folks, as a ham, no matter where you go - you'll always have friends!

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While in Maui, I did a little research into the history of the island's ham radio history. I found the fascinating history of the brothers Ernest and Freddie Tavares. They were of Portuguese and Hawaiian descent from Ku'au on Maui's north shore. They became master musicians and invented or improved many musical instruments, amplifiers and speakers that are in use today. One of items that I found of great ham radio interest was when Ernest was 15 years old, he created his own transceiver out of lead pipes and made a contact in New York. The year was 1926, and Ernest already had his "Class A" radio license. Depending on conditions, that would be tough to pull off today, forget about 1926 with the technology of the period. I sure didn't do that when I was 15!

\*\*\*

Lastly, I sure hope to see you all at Friday's Club meeting. Our Vice-President John Welden KJ6GLQ has arranged for Rich Harrington KN6FW to speak on Fox Hunting and direction finding. This is a very popular presentation, and Rich is a master at finding things that go "beep" in the night! You sure do not want to miss this presentation.

Until our next QSO...

73,

*Jim Siemons AF6PU*

*President*

## **Pacificon 2012 Volunteer Opportunities**

We appreciate the support of the many dedicated volunteers, who have contributed their time and energy to creating the greatest Amateur Radio events on the West Coast. Come help us in producing this year's ARRL National Convention at PACIFICON.

Most volunteer activity occurs on site immediately preceding, during, or following the convention and a minimum of a two hour commitment is preferred. Brief descriptions of volunteer duties with indications of any helpful experience or skills are shown. No one is expected to work the entire time! Suggested shift lengths are shown for each task.

Please let us know if you can work multiple shifts. Volunteers who work a total of 8 hours will have their entry fee refunded (\$23).

### **Registration**

Duties - Process forms and payments for onsite registration. Hand out registration material at Will Call for preregistered attendees.

### **Security**

Duties -Monitor Vendor Exhibit Hall entrance door, the Main Hallway just outside the Exhibit Hall, and the Swap Meet

### **Forums Attendant**

Duties – Forum Attendants operate as both Room Monitor and Security, checking badges at the door to verify that attendees are registered for Pacificon, and assisting the presenter in distributing session material

### **Prizes**

Duties – Monitor the Prizes room, and assist the Prizes Leader

### **Wouff-Hong**

Duties – Assist in equipment setup/takedown. Pre-Wouff-Hong volunteer should be an ARRL member who has previously participated in Wouff-Hong

**W1AW/6** Duties – Assist in station setup/takedown

### **Talk-In Station**

Duties – Monitor the station to provide information such as directions to the event location.

More information at  
<http://www.pacificon.org> and  
click on the VOLUNTEER  
button on the lower left hand  
corner.





# MDARC Board Meeting Minutes July 2, 2012

Presided over by Jim Siemons, President

The meeting took place at 7:06 pm at the Black Bear restaurant in Walnut Creek, Ca.

Attendees were - Jay Caldis, Ron Luttringer, Glen Rickard, Trevor Hall, Dave Gordon, Tom bKramer, John Primus, Dale McIntire, Bart Lee, John Welden

There was a motion to accept the minutes from the previous month's meeting which was seconded and approved.

President Jim reported on activities at this year's Field Day which beside the usual activities included a meeting on the status of the MESH network and the administration of various license examinations. Some routers were set up and plans were laid for a connection to Sacramento.

John Welden III, KJ6GLQ, was nominated to fill the post of Vice President that was vacated by Jim Siemons when he moved to fill the President's position following that person's resignation. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

It was announced that the July general meeting's program will be presented by Jim Moen, K6JIM. The subject will be D-Star and how you can have your own repeater.

Bart Lee spoke about the California Historical Radio Society adding that the organization is in trouble financially and needs approximately \$250,000 to sustain itself. He said help from clubs and individuals is needed at this time.

John Primus gave a brief report on the training of new hams.

Trevor Hall reported that there was no Tech committee meeting this month. There was no significant progress on the ATV move to North Peak. There are plans to stream video from South Peak there.

Tom Kramer said that CCC Races representatives toured CALEMA and that he could do a presentation showing slides. Races is looking for volunteers for the Pioneer Faire being held on Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. He explained some details of the exercise.

There was no Membership committee report at this meeting.

On Field Day event station K6F, at Mt. Diablo, was a success, working stations in the U.S. and as far away as Europe. There were many visitors at the Heather Farm site. 150+ stations were worked from there. There was a discussion about the banners used this year.

There was a report that the Pacificon Committee is considering other locations than the Marriott at Santa Clara for 2013.

It was suggested that the Carrier be used to solicit volunteers for the Grant Pursuit Committee.

An open position on the Kilroy Key committee was filled.

President Jim spoke about Ham Radio and the Rubicon trials.

There was no old or new business.

At 8:02 PM there was a motion, seconded and approved to adjourn.

***Note: This meeting was held in the open area of the venue, not in the usual room. The area was very noisy. There may be points or ideas that were missed.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Fletcher, AF9RF  
Secretary

# MDARC Club Meeting Minutes July 20, 2012

Presided over by Jim Siemons, AF6PU, President

The meeting took place at 7:35 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on Carol Lane in Lafayette, Ca.

The meeting opened with a pledge of allegiance.

Trevor Hall spoke to the members present about the connection of our repeaters to reflectors (conference bridges). He stated that connection to them is not advisable because they pre-empt Echolink and IRLP. He asked the members for their direction. After questions and discussion it was decided to not connect them to our analog repeater and to connect one to the D-Star repeater for a 90 day trial.

Trevor further reported that the North peak ATV site is ready for occupancy and that he will give a report on the current plans after the August Tech Committee meeting.

He then asked for nominees for club officers for 2013. Their names need to be presented to the membership at the September meeting.

Misa Siemons reported that funds in our accounts totals \$32,437.

Lauren, WA6CIE, reported on the Field Day activities saying that we made 684 contacts and the event was enjoyed to the fullest by everyone there. President Jim followed up with a report about the activities of the Mt Diablo team.

Bart Lee, K6VK, briefed everyone about a situation with the Historical Radio Society station KRE. The building they are in is being sold at auction and they need \$150,000 to participate. Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup> the station is holding an equipment sale in the form of an auction to support this effort. They are also asking for support from clubs and individuals. At this point there was a motion, which was seconded and approved, to pledge \$1,000. It was noted that it was a pledge, not a donation.

Glen Rickard spoke about the history and current status of the area's HSMM-MESH network. There are stations up and on the air but there is no connection between them yet. He emphasized the need for a backbone connection to the Sacramento area.

The VE results for the evening were 2 new tech licenses and 1 extra class.

President Jim introduced John Welden, KJ6GLQ, as our new Vice President.

President Jim announced the venue for this year's Holiday Party as Zio Fraeodo's restaurant in Pleasant Hill on 12-21-2012.

After a short break Jim Moen, K6JIM, gave the evening's presentation about D-Star technology and how you can build your own repeater.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Richard Fletcher, AF9RF*  
*Secretary*

# HAM RADIO OUTLET

## 12 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU !

Free UPS ground delivery in Continental USA for most orders over \$100  
HRO has Twelve Store Buying Power Working For You

### HRO - 12 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

Free UPS ground delivery in Continental USA for most orders over \$100

HRO has Twelve Store Buying Power Working For You

All HRO stores open 10AM-5:30PM, Telephone hours 9:30AM-5:30PM



### Order Toll-Free From a Location Near You

*If your closest 800 number is busy, please call one of our other numbers.*

*Phone Hours: 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM Monday - Saturday*

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### HRO Store Contact Information

Store	E-mail	Direct	Toll Free	Fax
Anaheim, CA	ana@hamradio.com	1-714-533-7373	1-800-854-6046	1-714-533-9485
Atlanta, GA	atl@hamradio.com	1-770-263-0700	1-800-444-7927	1-770-263-9548
Burbank, CA	bnk@hamradio.com	1-818-842-1786	1-800-854-6046	1-818-842-5283
Denver, CO	co@hamradio.com	1-303-745-7373	1-800-444-9476	1-303-745-7394
Newcastle, DE	del@hamradio.com	1-302-322-7092	1-800-644-4476	1-302-322-8808
Oakland, CA	oak@hamradio.com	1-510-534-5757	1-800-854-6046	1-510-534-0729
Phoenix, AZ	px@hamradio.com	1-602-242-3515	1-800-444-9476	1-602-395-1244
Portland, OR	or@hamradio.com	1-503-598-0555	1-800-854-6046	1-503-684-0469
Salem, NH	nh@hamradio.com	1-603-898-3750	1-800-444-0047	1-603-898-1041
San Diego, CA	sd@hamradio.com	1-858-560-4900	1-800-854-6046	1-858-560-1705
Sunnyvale, CA	sun@hamradio.com	1-408-736-9496	1-800-854-6046	1-408-736-9499
Woodbridge, VA	va@hamradio.com	1-703-643-1063	1-800-444-4799	1-703-494-3679



## The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

[www.mdarc.org](http://www.mdarc.org)



## FIRST CLASS

October 12, 13, 14, 2012

### W6CX Nets and Repeater Frequencies

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm General ATV Net 1241.250+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057  
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<http://www.dstarusers.org/viewrepeater.php?system=W6CX>

Dashboard link is: <https://64.81.254.107/status.html>

ATV Input: 1289.25 MHz AM/FM. Outputs 1241.25 MHz AM 919.25 MHz AM

ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

### Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.3 PL)

### August 2012 and September 2012 Club Calendar

Friday August 17, 2012 7:30pm MDARC General Meeting -  
Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette

\*\*\*CANCELED\*\*\*CANCELED\*\*\* MDARC Technical Committee Meeting - \*\*\*CANCELED\*\*\*

Monday September 10, 2012 7:00 pm MDARC Board Meeting \*\*NOTE DATE CHANGE\*\*  
Black Bear Diner, 700 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

Friday September 21, 2012 7:30pm MDARC General Meeting  
Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette